

Contentnea Creek – Neuse River Paddle
Grifton NC Wildlife Ramp to Maple Cypress Landing

When: Sunday April 29, 2007 at 9:00AM

Paddle Distance: 10.1 miles

Trip Difficulty: Moderate to Demanding due to distance, wind, and some boat traffic

Time on the water: 3 1/2 – 4 1/2 hours with lunch break

Skill Requirements: Novice to Advanced. There are no take outs (except for lunch and breaks) from start to end. PADDLERS MUST HAVE THE STAMINA TO COMPLETE THE ENTIRE 10 MILES ON THEIR OWN. Going back up stream against the current is not recommended.

Trip Details: We will put in at the NC Wildlife ramp in Grifton NC and head down Contentnae Creek. After 2 miles we will no longer see homes and the creek will narrow to fifty feet and wind through a pretty cypress swamp. We will merge with the Neuse River at the 4.5 mile mark and usually have a good current to help us along on the final 5.6 miles to Maple Cypress Landing.

Provisions: PFD must be worn, water, lunch or snacks, sun screen or UV protective clothes and hat, a change of clothes in dry bag.

Shuttle: Meet at the Maple Cypress Landing at no later than 9:00 am. We will double up on some vehicles and leave some cars here to shuttle us back to the put in at the end of the trip.

Driving Directions:

Maple Cypress Landing from New Bern: Take NC Hwy 55 NW to Biddle Farm Rd. (1472) and turn right. Go to Maple Cypress Rd. (1470) and turn right. Cross over the Neuse River Bridge and just past the white house on the left there is a small dirt road. Follow this road back to the landing.

You may also get there by taking Hwy 43 out of New Bern and turning left on River Road just after crossing the Neuse. Drive to Maple Cypress Rd. and turn left. Just before the bridge on the right will be a small dirt road next to a white house, take it to the landing.

Grifton NC Wildlife ramp: From Maple Cypress Landing turn left at end of dirt road unto Maple Cypress Rd. Turn left at River Rd. and go to NC Hwy 118, turn left and proceed to Grifton. Upon entering Grifton watch for the Wildlife ramp sign on the right shoulder. Turn left this will be South Street, go straight down to the parking lot at the creek.

Trip Leader: Ken Court (910) 346-3146 or kenbcourt@earthlink.net